AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION

Please replace the paragraph on the page 7 which begins with the words **"Structure 1: A molding"** with the following amended paragraph:

Structure 1: A molding die comprising a pair of molding die members for forming a molding cavity that molds molded products and a holding member that holds therein the molding die members slidably, wherein a pressure-transfer medium supplied to the clearance between the molding die members and the holding member makes the molding die members able to be slid and held in the holding member while the molding die members and the holding member are [[on]] in the non-contact state.

Please replace the paragraph on the page 14 which begins with the words **"In this case, it is possible"** with the following amended paragraph:

In this case, it is possible ~~either~~ to supply the ~~arrange so that~~ pressure-transfer medium ~~may be supplied~~ to the clearance from the molding die member side, or the holding member side, or ~~to arrange so that pressure-transfer medium may be supplied~~ from both the molding die member side and the holding member side~~, pressure-transfer medium may be supplied from the holding member side~~.

Please replace the paragraph on the page 14 which begins with the words **"Further, it is preferable"** with the following amended paragraph:

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Further, it is preferable that the clearance to which the pressure-transfer medium is supplied is within a range of 0.1 – 100 μm. When the clearance is 0.1 μm or more, ~~a burden is not loaded on processing~~ it is relatively easy to process the holding member and the molding die member, and surface roughness caused by processing does not affect the distribution of pressure, which remains uniform. When the clearance is 100 μm or less, it is possible to obtain sufficient stiffness which holds the molding die member at the center of the holding member against external force. It is more preferable that the clearance is in a range of 3 – 15 μm.

Please replace the paragraph on the page 16 which begins with the words **"A molding apparatus of"** with the following amended paragraph:

A molding apparatus of the invention is provided with a pair of molding die members for forming a molding cavity that molds molded products and a holding member that holds therein the molding die members slidably, and the molding apparatus is characterized to be equipped with a molding die wherein a pressure-transfer medium supplied to the clearance between the molding die members and the holding member makes the molding die members able to be slid and held in the holding member while the molding die members and the holding member are [[on]] in the non-contact state, and with a pressure-transfer medium supply means for supplying the pressure-transfer medium to the clearance.

Please replace the paragraph on page 22 which begins with the words **"The molding apparatus of the invention is provided with"** with the following amended paragraph:

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The molding apparatus of the invention is provided with a molding die having a molding die member and a holding member and with a pressure-transfer medium supply means for supplying pressure-transfer media to a clearance between the molding die member and the holding member The molding die has therein a pair of molding die members which form a molding cavity for molding a molded product and a holding member that holds therein the molding die members slidably. Thus, a pressure-transfer medium supplied to the clearance makes the molding die members able to be slid and held in the holding member while the molding die members and the holding member are [[on]] in the non-contact state.

Please replace the paragraph on page 44 which begins with the words **"In this case, eccentricity"** with the following amended paragraph:

In this case, eccentricity between the dies when they [[were]] faced each other was 0.5 μm. The repeated reproducibility of this amount of eccentricity was 0.05 μm, and eccentricity of 0.5 μm was reproduced firmly as an eccentricity error. Stiffness against external force was 120 N/μm which was a sufficient value for the force in the shifting direction which is hardly applied in ordinary molding. In addition, when the dies were butted by applying the force of 30 N on the rear end of each die, the dies slid extremely smoothly in the barrel die, and total length of butted two dies was reproduced at dispersion of 0.3 μm or less. In other words, reproducibility of the cavity thickness that determines a thickness of a molded article in the case of press molding was made to be extremely high, because the force applied was turned out to be butting force with excellent reproducibility without being lost.

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